POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Research and Writing Attorney

The Federal Capital Appellate Resource Counsel seeks a research and writing attorney.

The position of Federal Capital Appellate Resource Counsel was created in 2008 to (1) help recruit, train, advise, and otherwise support attorneys appointed under the Criminal Justice Act to represent clients in federal death-penalty appeals, (2) provide direct representation in a limited number of such appeals, and (3) coordinate with other resource counsel to advise trial and habeas lawyers on certain appellate-related legal issues. Barry Fisher assumed this position in September 2008.

The research and writing attorney will work under the supervision of the Federal Capital Appellate Resource Counsel. Responsibilities will include, but not be limited to providing legal advice and assistance to federal capital appellate attorneys; creating and disseminating model pleadings, case updates, and other information of common interest to appointed counsel; monitoring recent legal developments in federal death-penalty cases and jurisprudence; and legal research and brief-writing in a limited number of direct-representation appeals.

Candidates must have significant experience in criminal defense and/or criminal appeals, preferably including experience in capital or federal cases; excellent legal research and writing skills; a demonstrated ability to understand and manage complex factual and legal issues and voluminous case records; excellent communication skills and experience working cooperatively with other attorneys; and a strong commitment to obtaining justice for indigent defendants. Some travel will be necessary.

The new attorney will be based in a host federal defender organization, though not necessarily in the same office where the Federal Capital Appellate Resource Counsel is located. There are more than 75 such organizations (which include a total of 150 main and branch offices) throughout the United States. The office location of the selected applicant is subject to negotiation and will be determined based on the mutual needs of the candidate, the Federal Capital Appellate Resource Counsel, the federal defender program, and the potential host office. Applicants must be licensed attorneys in good standing, and must be admitted to the bar of the highest court of a state.

Hiring is subject to the availability of funding for the position. The salary will be commensurate with experience. To be considered, please submit (1) a cover letter detailing your experience and interest, (2) a resumé, (3) a writing sample, and (4) the names of three references, together with their telephone numbers and their e-mail contact information.

Applications by e-mail are preferred, and may be sent to barry_fisher@fd.org. Mail applications will also be accepted, and may be sent to Federal Capital Appellate Resource Counsel, Office of the Federal Public Defender, 39 North Pearl Street, 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12207. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.